

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 01687 091856Z

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9922

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 1687

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR APER SA EG US

SUBJECT: SHIPMENT OF USG EMPLOYEE VEHICLES: ARAB BOYCOTT ISSUE

REF: STATE 28801

1. DCM RAISED FEB 9 MATTER OF IMPORTING FORD VEHICLES BELONGING TO BAKLEY (AID) AND MURPHY (SFM) WITH CHIEF PROTOCOL AMBASSADOR HAMZA. AFTER A FEW INITIAL NEGATIVE NOISES, HAMZA, WHEN PRESSED BY DCM WHO POINTED OUT FINANCIAL HARDSHIP THIS WOULD CAUSE, AGREED THAT THESE FORD VEHICLES COULD BE BROUGHT INTO EGYPT, OBSERVING THAT THEY WERE USED AUTOMOBILES. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THEIR IMPORTATION WOULD REQUIRE PERSONAL PERMISSION OF FONMIN FAHMY, BUT HE SAID HE WOULD RECOMMEND APPROVAL AND FORESAW NO DIFFICULTIES IN THIS REGARD HAMZA STRESSED THAT THESE FORD VEHICLES COULD NOT BE SOLD IN EGYPT UPON EMPLOYEES DEPARTURE, BUT WOULD HAVE TO BE EXPORTED.

2. IN REPLY TO DCM'S QUERY, HAMZA INDICATED THAT FORD VEHICLES IN SIMILAR CASES AND CIRCUMSTANCES COULD ALSO BE IMPORTED ON BEHALF OF USG EMPLOYEES, PROVIDING THAT THEY WERE USED CARS AND ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY COULD NOT BE RESOLD IN EGYPT.
EILTS

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